

App. No. 09/779,537

Art Unit 3737

Docket No. P-8722.00

A1
1. (amended) An echogenic medical device comprising a porous polymeric material having a second acoustic impedance that is at least a portion of a structural component of an echogenic medical device having a first acoustic impedance.

A2
6. (amended) A method for preparing an echogenically enhanced medical device, the method comprising:

providing a phase separated composition comprising a polymer and an extractable material;

shaping the composition to form at least a portion of an echogenic medical device having a first acoustic impedance; and

extracting the extractable material from the composition to create a second acoustic impedance.

A3
16. (amended) A method for preparing an echogenically enhanced medical device, the method comprising:

providing at least a structural component of the medical device having a first acoustic impedance;

providing a polymer that is curable by irradiation with ultraviolet light;

blending porous particles with the polymer to produce a composition that is curable by irradiation with ultraviolet light;

applying the composition to the structural component of the medical device; and

curing the composition by irradiation with ultraviolet light to create a second acoustic impedance.

A4
19. (added) An implantable echogenic medical device, comprising:

a housing formed from a material having a first acoustic impedance;

a polymer covering at least a portion of the housing; and,

pores carried in the polymer, the pores containing air having a second acoustic impedance that is higher than the first acoustic impedance,